

HONORING OFFICER CHUCK  
STRATTON

**HON. JASON T. SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 13, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer Chuck Stratton of Poplar Bluff, Missouri for his exemplary service to his community through the Poplar Bluff Police Department. Officer Stratton first served our country in the United States Air Force, and began working for the Police Force in 1984 as a reserve officer. Over the next 29 years Officer Stratton served in a variety of positions within the Poplar Bluff Police Department, excelling in all. His work investigating narcotics began as a Canine handler before joining the SEMO drug task force in 1990. Towards the end of his career, Officer Stratton worked in the Evidence and Accreditation departments, and lastly as the Chief of Police and Director of Campus Safety for the Three Rivers College System.

Officer Stratton has been an invaluable asset to his community throughout his long career, during which he served hundreds of search warrants. During his tenure at the Poplar Bluff Police Department, Officer Stratton supervised every single division of the department at one time or another. He obtained a grant to bring a Methamphetamine Laboratory Collection Station to the Poplar Bluff Police Department which is still in use today. He has been recognized many times by his own community and by larger institutions such as the FBI. I am grateful that we have such dedicated and hardworking members of the Poplar Bluff community, such as Officer Stratton whose hard work helps keep the community safe. It is my pleasure to recognize his efforts and achievements before the House of Representatives.

HONORING RILEY'S BOOKKEEPING  
SERVICE

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 13, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a well-established rural town minority owned business, Riley's Bookkeeping Service.

Riley's Bookkeeping Service is owned and operated by Mr. LeRoy Riley. Riley's Bookkeeping Service has served its customers for more than 30 years. It has provided over 30 years of income tax preparation and currently offers bookkeeping service, full processing of payroll checks, along with quarter report forms and also batch provider for EFTPS.

Mr. Riley said that his business began as a little side service that he used to do to help people.

Mr. Riley is a Mississippi Valley State University alum and a math major that had more than 35 years as a public school educator, including serving as an assistant principal. He is also a certified notary, a hunter educator and gun safety instructor for the state of Mississippi.

Through his bookkeeping services, Mr. Riley says he roughly serves more than 400 people per year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. LeRoy Riley and the Riley's Bookkeeping Service for his steadfast dedication to serving his community with great, dependable, and compassionate service.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 13, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,281,164,714,573.43. We've added \$6,654,287,665,660.35 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.6 trillion in debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING RICO SMITH

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 13, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a diligent law enforcer, Chief Rico Smith.

Mr. Smith was born and raised in Coahoma, Mississippi. He is the only son of Robert and Bettye Smith Malane. Chief Smith attended Coahoma Agricultural High, and Coahoma Community College, in Clarksdale, Mississippi. He entered the United States Army for 3 years and was in the Army Band. He also graduated from Valley State in Itta Bena, Mississippi.

Chief Smith began his law enforcement career in 1995 as a patrolman and juvenile officer with the Friars Point Police Department where his dedication and commitment afforded him an opportunity to work with juveniles and participate on numerous boards, committees and forums.

Chief Smith served on the Coahoma County School Board, a board member for the Boys and Girls Club, a team facilitator for the Coahoma County Multidisciplinary Child Abuse Review Team and was appointed by the former Governor Haley Barbour to the Children's Justice Act Task Force for the State of Mississippi.

Chief Smith is an advocate for juveniles by working with such programs as the Adolescent Opportunity Program and the Toney Gobar Program.

Chief Smith is the former Chief of Police for the Town of Coahoma and is presently the Police Chief for the Town of Tutwiler, in Tutwiler, Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Chief Rico Smith for his dedication in being an outstanding Law Enforcer.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER  
OF JULIA LAVOIE

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 13, 2014*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the accomplishments of Julia Lavoie, best known as Julie. She has been with the Greater Springfield Credit Union in Springfield, Massachusetts for thirty-five years and currently serves as its CEO. She will be retiring as CEO of the credit union on January 17, 2014.

The Greater Springfield Credit Union was chartered on March 2, 1927. Its original charter was limited to mainly Springfield municipal employees and their families. Today it is open to any resident of Hampden or Hampshire Counties, while many of its members are City of Springfield employees, police officers, and firefighters.

Thirty-five years ago, Julie began working at the credit union as a teller. Over the course of the next three decades she held several positions including loan officer, assistant manager, and COO before being named the CEO in 2008.

Many credit union members have said that getting a loan from Julie was like going to the confessional, because no matter what the disclosed financial problem or the issue, she found a way to help the member. Over her more than three-decade career, spanning several generations of members, she has developed lifelong friendships due to both her friendliness and professionalism.

She has left the credit union in outstanding financial shape. Julie credits her success as CEO to its loyal members, hard-working staff, and dedicated Board of Directors. Due to Julie's vast institutional knowledge and tremendous value, she has been named "CEO Emeritus" by the credit union's board.

I know I join Julie's husband Ron Lavoie, her three daughters, and seven grandchildren in wishing her a happy retirement and continued success in all of her future endeavors.

HONORING MACK'S CAFÉ

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 13, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a well-established rural town minority owned business, Mack's Café.

Mack's Café opened for business August 2001 in Bolton, Mississippi. The owner, Mrs. Flora Bell Watson, has been known in the community as an extraordinary chef. Alongside her daughter, Anitra Watson, Ms. "Flo Bell" (as she is affectionately called) has nurtured her masterful skills of seasoning and marinating soul food meals for most of her life.

Mrs. Watson spent most of her life in Bolton and was employed with SOS Truck Stop in Clinton, Mississippi for nearly 30 years. She served as cook and waitress while working alongside her daughter Anitra, who worked with the same company for 22 years.

Once SOS Truck Stop went out of business, Mrs. Watson and her daughter took the opportunity to open her own restaurant in the town